

# Middletown Commission on the Arts

Minutes, July 25, 2012

## Present

Lee Godburn (chair)  
Cassandra Day (vice-chair)  
Jenny Hawkins Lecce (sec.)  
Joyce Kirkpatrick  
Lea Tomaszewski  
Barbara Arafeh  
David Davis (7:08)  
Charlotte McCoid  
Richard Kamins (7:15)  
Fran Ganguli  
Linda Salafia (council)

## Also Present

Stephan Allison, staff

## Absent

Franca Biales  
Bob Santangelo (council)  
Lauren Hodge (student rep)  
Maria Malafronte (student rep)  
Chelsea Rak (student rep)

## Call to order

Commission Chair Godburn called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. at the Municipal Building, Room 208, Middletown, CT.

**Public session:** None.

## Minutes from June 27, 2012

Motion to approve by Linda, second by Charlotte. No discussion. Carried with Lee, Barbara, Jenny abstaining.

## Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the meeting agenda as written by Joyce, second by Charlotte. Carried unanimously.

## Remarks from the Chair

Commission Chair Godburn remarked he has just returned from an impressive trip to Europe, noting the integration of art into all parts of public life.

## Old Business

**Budget Report** – no report other than to say that the council has reinstated the 10% that had been removed from the budget for KidsArts and Special Programs (Summer Sounds, Open Air Market, etc.).

## Program Update

- a) Arts Stakeholders Group: subcommittee met regarding Middletown Remix: ongoing, yearlong project.

**Website – Arts2Go.org:** ongoing

## MCA 40th:

- 1) include dedication 2) include events: tree lighting event, open air event, etc. 3) include press/media. A subcommittee will be formed for planning.

**City Seal Update:** The city attorney, the risk manager and the mayor have decided that the city seal artwork- an important WPA work- will not be loaned to the Mattatuck Museum. Jenny makes the motion that the commission recommend to the mayor that the WPA painting of the city seal by

Michael Lauretano, be expertly repaired and put under the stewardship of the MCA and made a part of the city collection. Seconded by Charlotte. Carried unanimously.

**Other:** Oddfellows Playhouse has obtained an Our Town Grant, \$50k granted by the NEA. The purpose of the grant is to purchase and renovate a new space.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Public Art Committee:**

- a) Catalogue of Public Art Collection: finished and printed
- b) MCAAAA 2012: to be returned from AP portfolio. Ongoing.
- c) Display Area Dedication: ongoing.

### **Planning & Projects Committee:** ongoing

- a) Arts Walk- removed from agenda at this time.
- b) 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – ongoing item for the Planning and Projects Committee

### **Nominating Committee:**

- a) Review of Bylaws: ongoing.
- b) Slate of officers: see New Business – Election of Officers.

**Other:** (Publicity Committee, Kids Arts Committee, Archive Committee): ongoing.

## **New Business**

**Election of Officers:** Slate of Officers: Lee Godburn for Chair, Cassandra Day for Vice Chair and Jenny Hawkins Lecce for Secretary. This slate reflects year two of a two year term. No additional nominations. Slate unanimously approved for Godburn (chair), Day (v.chair), Hawkins-Lecce (sec.)

**Open Air Market – August 26, 2012:** Stephan will coordinate with Lee to supply the booth, procure the face painter

**August Meeting:** no meeting in August, however there will be the Open Air Market on Aug. 26. Lee asks that the commissioners review their committee memberships and renew or change their committee memberships at the September meeting.

**Other:** Cassandra mentioned the Cash Mob events coming to Middletown, the Ladybug, and an unknown destination leaving from Sweet Harmony. These are stimulus initiatives wherein participants bring \$20 with the intention of spending it at the venue.

## **Adjournment**

Richard moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m., seconded by Fran. Carried. The MCA will next meet for its regular monthly meeting on September 26, 2012. Richard mentioned that he attended the Shakespeare everywhere before the concert at the Wadsworth Mansion and a small piece from Eight to the Bar. David Davis will be playing with Trevor Davis on August 14 for Summer Sounds. He will be playing Canoe Club on Friday 27.

## **Announcements**

Barbara shared that the 45<sup>th</sup> season for the Middletown Concert Association, presenting nearly 200 concerts in that time.

Respectfully submitted  
Jenny Hawkins Lecce